

TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.
P27,138 USA

In Re Application Of: **Yanien Lee, Zulin Shi, Jiunn-Yann Tang, Huoy-Jiun Wang**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/715,198	November 17, 2003	SAYALA, CHHAYA D	23307	1761	3354

Title: **TRIPOLYPHOSPHATE PET FOOD PALATABILITY ENHANCERS**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Rule 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration of Bob J. Dull, Ph.D. (5 pages)

in the above identified application.

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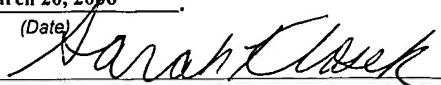
Dated: **March 20, 2006**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTORS: Yanien Lee, et al. Group No. 1761
APPLICATION NO.: 10/715,198 Examiner: C. Sayala
FILED: 11/17/2003
TITLE: TRIPOLYPHOSPHATE PET FOOD PALATABILITY
ENHANCERS
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Sarah Klosek

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P.O. Box 1450
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Rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 Declaration of Bob J. Dull, Ph.D.

I, Bob J. Dull, Ph.D., declare and say that:

1. I am Vice-President of Research and Development for the assignee of the above-identified patent application. I have over ten years of experience in flavor work, in general, and 2.5 years of experience with pet food palatability enhancers in particular. I am responsible for directing the research underlying the subject matter of this application. I am experienced and familiar with such subject matter.

2. I am familiar with the prosecution history of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/715,198 (the '198 application), at least to the extent that it is my knowledge that the application has been rejected as unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,254,920 (the '920

patent) or U.S. Publication No. 2005/0037108 (the '108 publication) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,099,879 (the '879 patent) and U.S. Patent 4,514,431 (the '431 patent) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,186,964 (the '964 patent), U.S. Patent No. 4,215,149 (the '149 patent), and U.S. Patent No. 5,015,485 (the '485 patent). I am very familiar with these publications.

3. The '964 patent, the '920 patent, and the '108 publication disclose pet food palatability enhancer compositions containing a pyrophosphate salt. The '108 publication is more specifically directed to the use of tetrapotassium pyrophosphate salts. The '149 patent discloses phosphate salts as pet food palatability enhancers. The '485 patent discloses coating dog biscuits with pyrophosphate salts for tartar control.

4. The '879 patent discloses treating meat products with rosemary extract and one or more tocopherols, ascorbic acid, citric acid or sodium tripolyphosphate to preserve seasoning flavor in irradiated meat for human consumption. The '431 patent discloses a flavor enhancer and seasoning composition for meat products containing from about 6 mole percent up to 50 mole percent of a phosphate and/or a monoacid phosphate and/or a diacid phosphate and/or phosphoric acid taken alone or further together with at least one tripolyphosphate, pyrophosphate or polymetaphosphate.

5. The claims of the present application are directed to pet food palatability enhancer compositions containing tripolyphosphate salts.

6. The Examiner considers the pet food palatability enhancer compositions of the present invention obvious in view of the references cited in paragraphs 3 and 4 allegedly because tripolyphosphate is an obvious variant for pyrophosphate as a pet food palatability enhancer.

7. However, the patents listed in paragraph 4 are directed to compositions used in the meat industry, where tripolyphosphates are added in order to retain water, not for palatability enhancement.

8. Further, the data presented in Table 1 below indicates that tripolyphosphates have unexpectedly superior palatability properties over pyrophosphates. An explanation of the results

is provided following Table 1.

Table 1

Example	Control		STPP/SAPP		Preference	Cats/Days
	Flavor	Appl %	Flavor	Appl %		
1	100% PH&L Digest	2.0	Co-Spray Dried PH&L Digest with 15% STPP	2.35*	1:2.97s	23/2
2	100% PH&L Digest	2.0	Co-Spray Dried PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.85*	1:1.90s	21/2
3	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% TSPP	2.0	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest with 30% SAPP	2.0	1:1.11	20/2
4	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% TSPP	2.0	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	2.0s:1	23/2
5	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% TSPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:1.5s	22/2
5	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% TSPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:1.39s	21/2
5	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% TSPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:1.37s	24/2
6	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% STPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:4.95s	23/2
7	Dry blend 85% PH&L Digest + 15% TSPP	2.0	Dry blend 85% PH&L Digest with 15% STPP	2.0	3.03s:1	22/2
8	Dry blend 85% PH&L Digest + 15% TSPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 85% PH&L Digest with 15% STPP	2.0	1:1.04	22/2
8	Dry blend 85% PH&L Digest + 15% TSPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 85% PH&L Digest with 15% STPP	2.0	1.28:1	22/2
9	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% SAPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:1.47s	24/2
9	Dry blend 70% PH&L Digest + 30% SAPP	2.0	Co-Spray Dried 70% PH&L Digest with 30% STPP	2.0	1:1.96s	22/2
10	Liquid PH&L Digest + 8.5% TSPP	5.0	Liquid PH&L Digest + 8.5% STPP	5.0	1.2:1	22/2

* Adjusted to the equivalent 2% digest in the control sample.

Co-spray drying was conducted using the liquid mixture at pH 4-10.

10. Example 1: For a base comparison of other enhancers, a flavor enhancer comprising poultry heart and liver (PH&L) digest dry blended with 30% tetrasodium pyrophosphate (TSPP) was used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food coated with a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry blended with 30% sodium acid pyrophosphate (SAPP). The consumption by the subjects of the two foods was essentially the same showing no real preference between the two.

11. Example 2: A flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was dry blended with

30% sodium tripolyphosphate (STPP) and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food coated with a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry blended with 30% TSPP. The subject cats ate TSPP coated and STPP coated foods in a ratio of about 2 to 1.

12. Example 3: In three separate trials involving 22, 21 and 24 cats, a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was co-spray dried with 30% STPP and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food coated with a dry flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry-blended with 30% TSPP. The subject cats showed a significant preference for the STPP, in direct contradiction to Example 2, in which cats showed a preference for dry blended TSPP over dry blended STPP.

13. Example 4: In a 23 cat trial, a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was dry blended with 30% STPP and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a Standard Cat Food coated with a dry palatability enhancer comprising PH&L digest co-spray dried with 30% STPP. The subject cats displayed a strong preference for the co-spray dried STPP in a ratio of 5 to 1.

14. Example 5: A flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was dry blended with 15% STPP and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food coated with a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry blended with 15% TSPP. The subject cats ate TSPP coated and STPP coated in a ratio of about 3 to 1.

15. Example 6: In two separate trials involving 22 cats each, a dry flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was co-spray dried with 15% STPP and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food coated with a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry blended with 15% TSPP. The subject cats showed a greater preference for the co-spray dried STPP than in example 5 when dry blended STPP was used.

16. Example 7: A flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest was co-spray dried with 30% STPP and used to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food

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coated with a flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest dry blended with 30% SAPP. In two separate tests the subject cats showed a significant preference for the STPP.

17. Example 8: A liquid flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest and 8.5% STPP was spray-applied to coat the Standard Cat Food. This was compared with a standard Cat Food spray-coated with a liquid flavor enhancer comprising PH&L digest and 8.5% TSPP. The two products were at parity in preference testing.

18. Control: In two separate tests, a control Standard Cat Food coated only with dry animal digest was tested against a test Standard Cat Food coated with the PH&L digest co-spray dried with 15% and 30% STPP. The subject cats showed a preference for the STPP coated cat food.

19. The foregoing demonstrates that the present invention represents more than the replacement of pyrophosphate palatability enhancers with a similar material. Instead, the use of polyphosphates represents an inventive step over the state of art identified by the Examiner.

20. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that the statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



Bob J. Dull, Ph.D.

3/20/06

Date